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Department of Energy

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Rocky Flats Office

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ERD JLP 00928

Background Soils Characterization

Robert L Benedetti Associate General Manager Environmental Restoration Management EG&G Rocky Flats Inc

The Department of Energy received your memorandum (93 RF-0690) regarding background soil characterization and we do not agree with your conclusions

Your memorandum states that EG&G will develop sufficient background soil data to meet InterAgency Agreement requirements by utilizing samples previously collected by the OU1 RFI/RI and implementing the OU2 surface soil sampling program. Initially EG&G proposed implementing a \$2.2 million program (92 RF 13665) to fully characterize back ground soils We concur that the proposed \$2.2 million program was excessive and did not warrant full funding DOE sent EG&G guidance in a memorandum (ERD JLP 0021) that provided a detailed summary of the IAG and OU workplan requirements that must be sup ported by background soil characterization. Your recent memorandum ignores this guidance and suggests continued discussions at the staff level This is not acceptable

We request that EG&G provide an outline for a formal proposal for the Background Surficial Soils Study by January 27 1993 The Colorado Department of Health is expect ing a completed proposal by January 29 1992 Although it is not practical to expect a complete proposal from you by this date the outline must be followed by a completed for mal program proposal at the earliest possible date. This program must present sound logic and be defensible to scrutinization by the regulatory agencies EG&G s expertise in the area of soil science and geochemistry should be utilized to the maximum extent possible In addition a strategy for providing funds for the proposed work must be developed and given priority within the EG&G organization

This request is consistent with previous staff level discussions and formal correspondence To further emphasize DOEs previous guidance I have again attached a summary of our cor respondence and background information on this issue. Any future delays to the timely completion of this project will be viewed as a deficiency in EG&G s ability to properly manage the ER programs

If you have any questions please contact me at extension 4888 or Jen Pepe of my staff at extension 2184

Richard J Schassburger

Acting Director \

Environmental Restoration Division

Attachment